

BANK ROBBERS GET HAUL IN NEBRASKA

DYNAMITE SAFES OF BANKS IN TWO TOWNS AND GET AWAY WITH ABOUT \$5,000

TWO STAND GUARD IN FUSILLADE OF BULLETS WHILE OTHERS WORK IN BANK.

POSSE IN PURSUIT OF ROBBERS AND THOUGHT ONE HAS BEEN WOUNDED.

GIBSON, Neb., December 18.—Six robbers, after dynamiting the safes of the Farmers State bank at Keene, twenty-eight miles south of Gibson, and the Commercial Bank of Gibson, engaged in a pitched battle here with a number of citizens early this morning, and escaped in an automobile with \$5,500.

One of the robbers is believed to have been wounded and have been carried off by companions. Poses are in pursuit.

The Keene bank was first entered. Here two vault doors were forced by an explosion. Robbers secured \$3,000, climbed into an automobile and started south. A farmer, aroused by the explosion, saw the robbers as they left town, but made no attempt to interrupt them.

An hour later, the robbers reached Gibson, and while four of the number began to work inside of the Commercial bank, two others kept guard outside. Here the explosion attracted a number of citizens to the scene, among them G. T. Holloway, president of the bank. Holloway, approaching the two men stationed outside of the bank, accosted them, believing them to be acquaintances of his. For reply, two bullets whizzed by him, one piercing his overcoat.

While the posse was gathering, the robbers inside the bank kept steadily at work, the guards meanwhile keeping up a steady fire on citizens.

Finally the citizens partially surrounded the building and for fifteen minutes a fusillade of shots was exchanged. Then at a given signal, all six robbers made their escape through a rear door and soon made off, escaping in the machine.

An investigation disclosed blood stains on the bank floor, indicating that one of the robbers had been shot. They had taken \$2,500 from bank vaults.

CHARITY TO PROFIT BY ENTERPRISE OF ELKS

SHOWS AT DREAMLAND AND THE IRIS TO GIVE PERCENTAGE TO FUND.

At a business meeting which followed the initiation of a class in the Elks lodge last evening, arrangements were instituted for the pulling off of two dramatic features next week in connection with the order for the benefit of the needy poor at the Christmas season. The management of the Raymond Ideal opera company, now playing at Dreamland, offered to give 25 per cent of the gross receipts of a performance Christmas night to the purpose, and Manager Keith of the Iris made the same offer for a performance Wednesday evening. The Iris people will be assisted by members of the Raymond Ideal company, and both shows should book record business. A meeting will be held in the office of City Clerk Welch this afternoon to perfect the arrangements, and if everything comes through all right, the Elks' fund for charity should be swelled in an appreciable manner.

PHOSPHATE LANDS SUBJECT OF HOUSE INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, December 18.—The question of the entry of large tracts of phosphate lands in Idaho, Wyoming and Utah was taken up by the house committee on public lands today. Secretary of the Interior Garfield was before the committee to explain the reasons which prompted him recently to withdraw two million acres of this land from entry. The subject was only gone into superficially, Secretary Garfield being invited to reappear before the committee after the holidays and continue the explanation.

INDIAN WOMAN KILLED IN CAR LOAD OF LUMBER

FREIGHT TRAIN WRECKED NEAR SAN CARLOS, TEN CARS BEING DERAILED.

PASSENGER TRAIN AT SAFFORD INCOMING TRAIN LAST NIGHT CAUGHT BEHIND WRECK—WILL BE IN TODAY.

Wreck Caused By Broken Flange—Five Cars Thrown Entirely Clear of the Track—One Woman Killed and Another Injured—Names Not Known.

In a wreck at the eighty-four mile post of the Gila Valley road yesterday afternoon, one Indian woman was killed and another injured. The train wrecked was a freight, No. 12, and ten cars were derailed, five being thrown clear of the track and the others lying partly on the rails. The wreck was caused by a broken flange. The track was badly torn up for a distance of about four hundred feet and a great deal of work will be necessary to clear the right-of-way. Last evening's passenger train was held in Safford and at a late hour this morning it was thought the track would be clear before noon today and the train allowed to proceed.

The name of the woman killed has not been learned, as most of the Indians on the reservation are known by numbers. She and her companion were riding on a car of lumber which was thrown from the track, and the woman was crushed to death by the falling lumber. The extent of the injuries of the other woman are not known, but it is said that she will recover. Coroner Rabinovitz of San Carlos was taken to the scene last evening to view the remains of the dead woman and it is probable that he will hold an inquest today.

Superintendent Mallard last evening stated that a train would be made up to leave at the regular time this morning if the track was in condition to allow it to pass when it reached the scene of the wreck. A train to train to transfer the passengers of the wreck-bound passenger train was not sent down last evening for the reason that no crew was available in Globe, all of the men being out on the road. Another obstacle in the way of sending down an extra is the fact that there are no facilities for turning an engine, and to back a train for that distance is a dangerous matter, and so it was decided to allow the train to lay in Safford until the track is clear.

None of the crew of the wrecked freight was injured, as the cars derailed were in the middle of the train, the crew naturally being in the caboose and on the engine.

PRESIDENT PREPARING EVIDENCE ON CHARGES

WASHINGTON, December 18.—The president is preparing for submission to congress a mass of evidence upon which he based his statements in his annual message, regarding the secret service, and for which the Perkins resolution, passed yesterday in the house, called upon the president to produce. The work necessary to put the evidence in shape for presentation was so great that it will not be ready to send to the house until after the Christmas recess.

ARTIST WORKING ON BUST OF VICE PRESIDENT TEDD

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Shortly after the holidays the senate will probably decide where to place the marble busts of the two vice presidents, Roosevelt and Fairbanks. Roosevelt's career in the senate was extremely brief, although it ended about seven years ago. Up to this time no bust of him had been made. Roosevelt selected James Frazier, a young artist of New York, highly recommended by St. Gaudens, as one of the most promising sculptors of the day. Frazier has been at work for some time carrying out the commission. It is understood that the bust is now nearing completion and will be finished before March 4.

DRAMATIC STORY BY CLUB MEMBER IN ANNIS TRIAL

YACHT CLUB MAN TELLS HOW HAINS FIRED SHOTS AT MURDERED MAN.

FLUSHING, L. I., December 18.—The most dramatic story yet told of the slaying of William E. Annis was recounted today in the trial of Thornton J. Hains, charged with being a principal in the killing of Annis, when Herbert Funke, a member of the Bay-side Yacht club, told how Captain Hains, lifting the swinging boom of the Annis boat, and calling to Annis, fired several shots at him as he sat at the tiller.

"There was a pause after the first shot, then came four shots in succession, after which came a single shot," declared Funke.

"It was after the first shot and before the other shots were fired, that Thornton Hains drew his revolver and pointed it at me."

The prosecution claims that Funke's evidence is another proof of the state's contention that the defendant was a principal and was aiding his brother in carrying out a preconcerted plan to kill Annis.

Funke's examination lasted all day. The defense will claim that as an automatic revolver was used, there could not have been pauses between shots.

THREE INTRODUCED TO ANTLERS LAST NIGHT

ELKS SWELL MEMBERSHIP BY A QUARTER DOZEN, GIVING FULL DEGREE.

Three mavericks were rounded up, roped in and led to the antler fitter last evening by the local lodge of Elks. They were Harry Solomon, the Copper Hill merchant; Walter Hege, Jacobs' gold filer, and Charley Clarke, the mining promoter. Your scribe was not present at the proceedings, but judging from the appearance of the newly made Elks at an early hour this morning, they got all that was coming to them. Hege, attired in his bewitching Merry Widow bonnet and trailed by a big bunch of the strenuous element, was seen wending his way homeward about 23 G. M., proudly wearing on his manly bosom a fine antler pin presented by an admiring friend who desires to remain nameless. It is quietly rumored that a certain young gentleman prominent in railroad circles was booked for the work last evening, but remained in hiding, desiring to be the single star performer at a future engagement. No excuses will be accepted, and he will get his'n all right about two weeks from last night.

WAR REPORT DISCREDITED IN EUROPEAN CIRCLES

BERLIN, December 18.—Both the German foreign office and President Castro discredit the report that Venezuela has declared war against the Netherlands. The foreign office takes the ground that even if hostilities had been declared, the declaration cannot become effective, because Venezuela is in no position to carry a campaign beyond its own borders and Holland will not exceed the limits of its retaliatory course as already fixed and known to the United States.

The feeling is also growing here that President Castro left South America, not because of illness, but to escape the political turmoil, and has no intention of ever returning.

WAR RUMOR RIDICULED.

THE HAGUE, December 18.—The foreign office places no credence in the report that Venezuela has declared war against the Netherlands. Even if the rumors turn out to be true, the government considers the Dutch squadron in South American waters sufficient to meet all eventualities.

PRESIDENT AND DETECTIVES CONFER ON BROWNSVILLE

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Herbert J. Browne, the detective upon whose report the president's recent message to congress regarding the Brownsville incident was based, conferred with the president today. Secretary Wright also saw the president and they discussed the answer to the Foraker resolution.

SENATOR KNOX TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE THAT HE WILL ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT.

CABINET POSITIONS FORECAST

WILSON, HITCHCOCK AND STRAUS PROBABLY CONTINUED IN THEIR POSITIONS.

AUGUSTA, Ga., December 18.—Taft tonight announced the appointment of Senator Knox as secretary of state. The announcement followed the receipt of Taft's telegram conveying the information from Knox that he would accept.

While in Washington last week, Taft told several close advisors, that if he could fill to his entire satisfaction the positions of secretary of state, secretary of the navy and attorney general, he would not be at all disturbed by the difficulty of getting suitable appointees for the remaining positions. It is generally believed an Ohio man will be selected for secretary of the treasury. The name of Judge R. A. Ballinger of Seattle, Wash., former commissioner general of the land office, is heard in connection with the secretaryship of the interior.

It is stated that Taft is looking for a man to take the war portfolio who has had sufficient experience to work out the reorganization scheme put into force by Root while he was at the head of that department.

The position of secretary of commerce and labor has been mentioned to a very slight extent and in some quarters it is thought Secretary Straus will be continued in the post, for a time at least.

For secretary of agriculture it is practically conceded that James Wilson of Iowa will be continued for a year or more.

The appointment of Frank H. Hitchcock to be postmaster general has already been announced.

AUGUSTA, December 18.—A vigorous welcome was given Taft on his arrival here today. The official welcome was extended him by a large committee. Taft was cheered by the crowd which surged around the party on its way through the station to the automobile of Mr. and Mrs. Landon A. Thomas, at whose house the Tafts will occupy the Terrett cottage.

Thomas' home is near the Bon Air hotel, three miles from the city, and the Terrett cottage is adjacent to the hotel.

The trip from New York, which was begun yesterday morning, early, and was interrupted by the Washington luncheon and conference at the White House, ended here without incident.

FORESTRY DEPARTMENT WANTS PLENTY MONEY

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Gifford Pinchot, Chief Forester of the United States, devoted most of the day to explaining to the house committee on agriculture his reasons for asking for nearly two million dollars increase in appropriations for national forests. He urged the necessity for providing 1,500 more foresters and government officials in connection with policing and sale of timber on forest reserves and asked for a larger fund for the establishment of trails and roads throughout the reserves.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORMERS ELATED OVER PROGRESS

PITTSBURGH, December 18.—Delegates to the twenty-eighth annual convention of the Civil Service Reform league, which opened today, are highly elated over a recent order granting a large number of fourth-class postmasters the protection of the merit system. The president of the league, Jos. H. Choate, formerly ambassador to Great Britain, was instructed to telegraph President Roosevelt congratulations on his recent order, "I aid of civil service advancement."

INVESTIGATION OF CHARGE COMES UP AFTER HOLIDAYS

WASHINGTON, December 18.—No action was taken today by the senate committee on appropriations to carry out the senate instructions that the message of President Roosevelt relative to the secret service be investigated. The whole matter will go over until after the holidays, and then a meeting will be called by Senator Hale for the purpose of naming a sub-committee. It is understood Hemenway is to be appointed chairman of the committee.

MAXIMUM SENTENCE METED OUT TO GRAFTERS

PENNSYLVANIA CAPITOL MUSS FURNISHES TWO JAIL SENTENCES.

HARRISBURG, December 18.—Two years imprisonment and a fine of \$500, the maximum penalty, was the sentence meted out today by Judge Kunkel, to each of the four men who were convicted of defrauding the state in connection with furnishing the capitol building in this city. The four defendants are John H. Sanderson of Philadelphia (contractor for furniture); James M. Shumaker of Johnstown, superintendent of the board of public grounds and buildings at the time the contract for furniture was let; William P. Snyder, of Spring City, and William L. Mathews of Media, respectively auditor general and state treasurer during the operation of the contract and by virtue of their positions as members of the board on grounds and buildings. The men were convicted of defrauding the state of \$19,308, in a contract for furniture. They are out on bail. The case will be appealed.

NEW ICE COMPANY FORMED BY LOCAL PEOPLE

CAPITALIZED AT \$100,000 AND MADE UP OF PROMINENT BUSINESS MEN.

The Home Ice company has been organized in Globe, the articles of incorporation appearing in the Silver Belt this morning. The gentlemen named as incorporators are Pat Rose, J. W. Bundhauer and I. O. Lowthian, who will form the first board of directors. The men interested in the company as stockholders are said to include many of the prominent business people of the city and the financial backing is strong. The company expects to have its plant in readiness to take advantage of the coming summer's trade, and work will be begun in the near future.

The capital stock of the incorporation is placed at \$100,000, divided into shares of the par value of \$10, and no trouble was experienced in placing the stock, as many believe the ice business to be profitable. The location and details regarding the plant have not been made public, but will be announced in the near future.

YOUTHFUL BOXER KILLED IN PHILADELPHIA BOUT

PHILADELPHIA, December 18.—James Curran, 18 years old, was killed in a boxing bout with Benjamin Barnett, aged 17, at the Broadway Athletic club tonight. Barnett knocked Curran down with a hard blow on the chin. After arising, Curran collapsed and died on his way to the hospital.

ELEVEN DEAD, THIRTEEN ILL, IN PHILIPPINE CAMP

MANILA, December 18.—Eleven deaths have occurred and thirteen men are seriously ill at Keithey camp, Mindanao island, as a result of the men of the Eighteenth infantry drinking a vegetable compound extracted from cubana root. The names of the dead and seriously ill are withheld until an official report is made. The beverage was served as "vino" a native drink, at a resort near the camp.

UNMASKED MEN BOB TRAIN.

PORTLAND, December 18.—The Oregon Railroad & Navigation train No. 1, was held up and the mail car dynamited by four unmasked robbers tonight, nine miles east of Portland. The robbers secured little of value and did not molest passengers.

GREAT FIRE IN RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 18.—Dispatches state a great fire is raging in Rostov-on-the-Don, which has destroyed the center of the town, and another entire quarter. Several lives are lost. Rostov-on-the-Don is the principal shipping point for wheat products of Eastern Russia; population 120,000.

SOUTH POLE EXPEDITION.

PUNTA ARENAS, December 18.—The French steamer Porquoy Pas with Dr. Charcot's expedition on board, sailed today to search for the south pole.

JOINED NIGHTRIDERS FOR FEAR OF DEATH

PRISONERS IN SENSATIONAL SOUTHERN NCASE ARE UN-EMOTIONAL.

TAKEN WITH RIDERS BY FORCE

SO SAYS WITNESS WHO ACCOMPANIED THEM AT KILLING OF CAPTAIN RANKIN.

After Crime Was Committed He Was told to Notify Landlord of the Death of His Guests—Asked If He Recognized Perpetrators of Deed.

UNION CITY, Tenn., December 18.—The state made material progress in the first day's testimony in the night riders' trial. Testimony covering the details of the murder of Captain Rankin and supporting the identification of the two prisoners as members of a masked band was presented.

The prisoners, unkempt, scowling and silent, paid little attention to the proceedings. Only once did they betray any emotion.

One witness, who had been sworn into the band against his will, testified that the only part of the oath he remembered was that providing they would kill him if he revealed anything. At this some of the prisoners grinned.

Ed. Powell was an important witness for the state. Powell was dragged from his bed the night Rankin was murdered and forced to accompany the band to the Walnut Log hotel, from which Rankin and Taylor were taken. Powell said he recognized Garrett Johnson and Roy Ransom as members of the band.

When the riders took Rankin and Taylor out of the hotel into the woods, they took Powell along too, he said. He heard them questioning two of the men as to their title to land in the Reelfoot district. Near the spot where Rankin was murdered, they halted Powell until the crime was done. When they asked him if he recognized any of them and he said "No," they told him to tell Ward, the hotel proprietor, to come down for the bodies of his guests.

Powell was arrested by soldiers and testified before the coroner that he failed to recognize the riders, but did so because he feared for his life.

AEROPLANISTS MAKES RECORD FOR HEIGHT OF FLIGHT AND TIME UP

LEMANS, December 18.—Wright closed a triumphant day by achieving another record, flying to a height of 360 feet in a strong wind and winning the Sarthe Aero club's prize for height. At first it was thought the violence of the breeze would compel Wright to postpone his effort, but he launched his machine and circled around and around the field. When soaring at ninety feet, a sudden gust of wind caught the aeroplane, causing it to plunge violently backward. Spectators were terrified, but Wright soon righted his craft. After ten minutes the wind moderated and the aeroplane soared upward and passed high over the line of captive balloons marking the distance of three hundred feet. Then it descended and after again circling the field was brought to earth, landing in front of the door of the shed in which it is housed.

The Aero club tonight gave a banquet in Wright's honor.

This morning Wright broke another record by staying up one hour and 49 minutes.

TURKEY NOW FULL FLEDGED CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 17.—Turkey makes her bow as a full-fledged constitutional monarchy today, when the new parliament begins its first session. This assembly was provided for in the constitution provided by Abdul Hamid last July and is the first body of its kind to meet in the empire for over thirty years.

NEW SECRETARY A YOUNG MAN

BOSTON, December 17.—William Phillips, who was today appointed third assistant secretary of state, is about twenty-seven years of age, and a graduate of Harvard, class of 1900. He is a son of Mrs. J. C. Phillips of Boston, and has been in Washington several years in the diplomatic service.

FOR EMBASSY AT PARIS.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Senator Lodge today introduced an amendment to the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill providing an appropriation of \$400,000 to purchase a site and erect a building for the American embassy at Paris.

PEOPLE TO BE FED ON SOME KIND OF STOCKS

SO SAYS PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN SMELTING & REFINING COMPANY.

NEW COPPER CORPORATION NIL

WILL HAVE NO EFFECT ON BUSINESS OF GUGGENHEIM'S COMPANY.

Important Figure in Copper World in Statement Says Copper Smelting Business Is Annoying One and But Few Exclusive Copper Smelters Working.

NEW YORK, December 18.—Daniel Guggenheim, president of the American Smelting & Refining company, today made public a statement in which he said:

"Some years ago the speculating public was kept in a ferment by the cry of 'wolf' in connection with sugar refining stocks, due to competition between the Havemeyers and Arbuckles. It seems the people must be fed upon something of this kind. As American Sugar Refining stocks are now so largely absorbed and put away in boxes, American Smelting & Refining company's common stock is being speculated with in its stead. This will continue until it is absorbed and put away in boxes, unless some other securities shall in the meantime become more popular with speculators. There is nothing now that I can see, or nothing of policy in the so-called Ryan development of the copper smelting business. A group of gentlemen, known as the Ryan-Cole crowd, and their following, have been for many years in the copper mining and smelting business. They are great believers in copper as a metal, and so am I. Whether or not they have now formed a large company for the purpose of taking in other interests or for the purpose of building new smelters and buying new mines is nothing new, nor is it anything that the American Smelting & Refining company's shareholders need look upon with any concern whatever, because the American Smelting & Refining company has not a single exclusive copper smelter in the United States.

"The American Smelter Securities company has only one exclusive copper smelter in the United States and neither of these companies is likely to have in the near future any more exclusive copper commission smelters, because they look upon copper smelters as an extremely annoying business."

Speculation as to their controlling influence in the company reported as about to build smelting plants in competition with the American Smelting & Refining company continued today and in certain supposedly well informed circles it was said with assurance that this backing was none other than the copper interests of the Standard Oil company.

STILES REPORTED TO BE KILLED IN NEVADA

NOTORIOUS OUTLAW WAS DEPUTY SHERIFF AND LIV-ING INCOGNITO.

BISBEE, December 18.—News was received here today by the mother of Billy Stiles that he had been murdered in Nevada, where he was living under an assumed name and was a deputy sheriff in the county where he lived. Stiles had recently killed a cattle rustler and the brother of the man killed by Stiles watched his chance and when he was going into his house, shot him in the back, killing him instantly. Stiles was one of the best known outlaws in this section of the southwest, and his whereabouts were unknown until this information was given out today.

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS TO DEAD LETTER OFFICE

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Postmaster General Meyer announced today that he would not renew his order issued in December, 1907, permitting the delivery to charitable organizations addressed to "Santa Claus." Such letters will be sent to the dead letter office.